

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS

1906

PRINTED BY ORDER OF PARLIAMENT



OTTAWA

PRINTED BY S. E. DAWSON, PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST
EXCELLENT MAJESTY

1906

[No. 35a—1906.]

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS

1880



Printed by the
The Government Printer, London
1880

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS

ASSEMBLED AT THE ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE, KINGSTON, ONT.,
ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1906, AT 2.30 P.M.

PRESENT :

Major-General P. H. N. LAKE, C.B., C.M.G. (Chairman), Chief of the General Staff.

Brigadier-General W. D. OTTER, C.B., A.D.C., Commanding Western Ontario.

Major H. A. PANET, D.S.O., Royal Canadian Artillery, Assistant-Adjutant-General at Headquarters.

The Hon. Mr. Justice W. P. R. STREET, LL.B., Member of Senate, Toronto University.

Monsignor O. E. MATHIEU, C.M.G., Rector of Laval University.

Acting Secretary, Major C. F. WINTER, 'The Governor General's Foot Guards.'

Lieutenant-Colonel E. T. TAYLOR, Commandant of the Royal Military College, in attendance.

ADMISSION TO THE COLLEGE AND COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

1. The board first proceeded to consider the conditions of admission to the college and the course of instruction thereat.

Lieut.-Colonel Taylor was requested to raise before the board any question in connection with either, which in his opinion might usefully be discussed.

ELIGIBILITY OF CANDIDATES.

2. In connection with the eligibility of candidates, he submitted to the board that paragraph 7, of the regulations for the Royal Military College, as now worded, tended to exclude candidates who, in his view, were in every way desirable; for, under that paragraph, the sons of graduates of the Royal Military College who were serving in the Imperial Army were often ineligible, they or their parents not having resided in Canada for the two years immediately preceding the date of examination. The board concurred and suggest the following for insertion as sub-paragraph 7 (a):

'In the case of applicants whose fathers are graduates of the college and are in the military service of the Empire, it shall not be necessary that the two years residence shall have immediately preceded the date of examination.'

PREFERENCE TO SONS OF MILITIA OFFICERS.

3. Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor then raised the question whether, in view of the military nature and origin of the Royal Military College and in order to maintain this

5-6 EDWARD VII., A. 1906

characteristic, some preference, in the form of a reduction in the fees of the college, either upon the entrance or during the course, might not be given to the sons of officers who had served in the militia.

The board recommend for the favourable consideration of the Honourable the Minister, that some reduction in the charges for tuition and maintenance might with advantage be made to candidates, the sons of officers of not less than twenty years' service in the militia. This term would ensure that any officer who claimed the privilege had rendered good service to the country.

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION—MATHEMATICS.

4. In connection with the entrance examination, Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor suggested that the minimum number of marks required for qualification in mathematics might be amended. The subject of mathematics is divided into four sections, arithmetic, algebra, euclid and trigonometry, to each of which 750 marks are allotted, making a total of 3,000. Qualification in each section is not necessary; 750 marks, or 25 per cent of the total marks are sufficient. He pointed out that this arrangement enabled some candidates to ignore altogether one or more of the four subjects and yet to qualify. He recommended that the minimum qualification should be exacted for each separate section of the subject, instead of for the whole only, as at present. In this the board concur.

5. It was also agreed that the same principle ought to be applied to other subjects which are divided into sections, such as English, geography, history and French.

6. Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor expressed a doubt whether 25 per cent did not represent too low a standard of qualification in mathematics. The board, while concurring in this view, incline to the opinion that the range of subjects included in the syllabus of examination for mathematics is unnecessarily extensive, and tends to encourage candidates to present themselves with merely a smattering or 'cram' knowledge of the subject. The range of the examination is certainly wider than that usually required for matriculation at the majority of Canadian universities, although, by paragraph 14 of the Royal Military College Regulations, it is permissible for matriculants of one of these universities to be admitted without examination. The board consider that it would be preferable to confine the scope of the examination within the limits required for matriculation at the universities referred to, but at the same time to require a much more thorough grounding in those subjects and a much higher minimum of marks for qualification. They held the opinion that it would be easier to carry out the syllabus of mathematics laid down for the college course with candidates who were sound as regards elementary knowledge, than with those who had tried to learn more but were not so thoroughly grounded. Were this view accepted, they would recommend, for adoption, at least the qualifying minimum proposed by the commandant, of 33 per cent in each section of the subject and 40 per cent on the subject as a whole.

ENGLISH AND FRENCH.

7. The board and the Commandant were agreed in considering that the important subjects of English and French did not receive the attention which was desirable, but in view of the shortness of the college course, it appeared scarcely practicable to allot additional time to these two subjects during the course.

8. It was, however, thought that, as a correct knowledge of one's own language must be an essential element in any sound education, candidates at entrance might fairly be required to show a much more thorough acquaintance, each with his own language, in grammar, orthography and composition than was demanded at present, and that good handwriting should receive special marks. This principle should be applied equally to English and French-speaking candidates. The board recommend this proposal for adoption, without, however, suggesting any reduction of the time at present allotted to English and French during the course.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 35a

DURATION OF COURSE.

9. The Commandant represented that there was a very general feeling among the professors, which he himself shared, in favour of reverting to a four-years' course, instead of the three-years course adopted in 1896. The professors did not feel that they could do full justice in a three years course to the subjects which they were required to teach according to the syllabus. He himself had doubts whether sufficient time and attention were given to the military subjects, for instruction in which the college primarily existed, and yet he felt that if the present standard in the subjects of civil engineering and surveying was to be maintained, it was hardly possible to spare more time for military subjects, unless the course was extended. Closely allied with this preference for a four years course was, he admitted, the widespread desire of graduates and professors of the college that the course in civil engineering and surveying at the college should be such as to complete a graduate's education in those subjects, and to render it unnecessary for him to take a course therein at a university afterwards. The diploma of graduation would then, it was hoped, be accepted by the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers for admission to that body.

10. The board regard it as evident that a four years course could be made more thorough and satisfactory from all educational points of view than a three years course, but feel that there is some room for doubt as to the attitude of parents and guardians towards such a change. The main disadvantage of the four years course from their standpoint, no doubt, is the consequent postponement of the time at which the graduate could enter a profession. The expense of the additional year at the college is perhaps a matter of less importance now than it may have been when the change from four years to three was made. It would be well to try and ascertain the feelings of parents on this subject, by consulting those who now have sons at the College, before deciding upon any change. This the Commandant undertook to do. A subsidiary consideration is the probable attitude towards the proposal of existing universities. The college at present does not compete with them but with a four years' course it would probably do so. The Royal Military College moreover cannot hope to be so fully equipped for practical work as are the older universities, and it is not certain that the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers would be willing to recognize the college diploma as of equal value.

SYLLABUS OF INSTRUCTION.

ALLOTMENT OF TIME.

11. Proceeding to consider the syllabus of instruction and the hours allotted to each subject, the board remarked that the time given to mathematics throughout the course was by itself practically as great as the time allotted to all the military subjects put together. Surveying and civil engineering together get about the same amount of attention, with the result that little more than a quarter of the whole time available is given to purely military subjects. They were assured, however, that the amount of mathematics taught was only that necessary to enable Cadets to carry on satisfactorily the work of the syllabus in physics, surveying and civil engineering. If this be so, the time allotted to mathematics cannot be reduced without reducing the standard attained in those subjects. And yet, they feel that it is impossible to maintain that the present totals, of 72 hours devoted to tactics, of 36 hours to military administration, and 36 hours to military law, and those in the second year only, none being taught in the first or third years, can impart a satisfactory knowledge of these important subjects,—especially when it is remembered that a graduate's diploma is supposed to guarantee

5-6 EDWARD VII., A. 1906

his qualification for the command of a regiment or a position on the staff of the militia. It will be observed that this question is closely allied with that of a four years' course of instruction. It is perhaps right to add that the four years' course of instruction would, by reducing the number of cadets of each year, operate to allow more of that individual instruction which is a valuable feature in the college system.

SURVEYING.

12. It appeared to the board that the only method by which it might be feasible to allot more time to military subjects would be by treating all branches of surveying as a single subject, a reform which appeared to be desirable on other grounds also. The Professor of 'Civil' Surveying pointed out to them, and in this the board concurred, that to treat military topography and reconnaissance (as practised at the college) as entirely separate subjects from 'civil' surveying, tended to over-lapping of work and waste of power. Military topography is merely the adaptation of the science of surveying to particular conditions. It is a rough and ready method of surveying for military purposes. As regards reconnaissance, although a rough survey, or sketch, almost invariably accompanies a reconnaissance report, it is merely an adjunct to and not an essential part of such report. It may here be noted that 'civil' surveying is a misnomer. The proper name of the science is simply 'surveying' and it should be so designated.

13. They, therefore, have no hesitation in recommending that in future the subject of surveying should take the place of the present separate subjects of 'civil' surveying, military topography and the sketch portion of the subject of reconnaissance, the two latter being treated as sub-divisions of the general subject. This will entail a re-arrangement of subjects in the syllabus and a re-allotment of the hours of work, with the result, as they hope, of an appreciable increase in the time available for military subjects, without interfering with the study of other subjects, even if it be found impossible (which should be the subject of expert examination) to reduce the time allotted to mathematics.

14. However this may be, the board feel bound to admit that, even with a more considerable increase of the hours available for military subjects than at present seems to them probable under any feasible arrangement, it will be impossible to contend that the time available in a three years' course for military subjects is not too short to enable the college to fulfil the primary object of its existence, viz., the imparting a thorough instruction in the elements of the military profession.

INCREASE OF INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF.

15. Short of reversion to a four years' course which for the reasons above given, they hesitate to recommend, the only practical alternative appears to the board to be an increase in the staff of instructors, which will enable more individual attention to be given to students with correspondingly better progress.

16. Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor recommends this course upon other grounds also, viz., to meet the demands for military instruction made by the permanent force and active militia. The military professors, in addition to their college duties, undertake two courses of instruction for militia officers, of three months each, during the year, and to these they have recently agreed to add a special preparatory course for the British Staff College examination. The work thus done for the militia is of the highest value.

17. The Commandant believes that he can successfully cope with both classes of requirements by a rearrangement of, and small addition to, his present staff of professors and instructors. He has at present four military professors and two assistant instructors, whose work is concerned partly with civil, partly with military subjects. He proposes to dispense with one military professor, and to ask for four additional assistant instructors, whom he could allot to the assistance of the different professors,

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 35a

both military and civil, according to the requirements of the moment. This will apparently involve an extra expenditure of about \$3,000 per annum. The board recommend this proposal.

ALLOTMENT OF MARKS.

18. Lieutenant-colonel Taylor proposed reducing the marks now given for rifle practice, and allotting marks to cadet non-commissioned officers for performance of their duties.

The board considered that the Commandant should examine the whole question of the present allotment of marks, more especially with reference to the proportions allowed for theoretical studies as compared with practical work, and for theoretical civil studies as compared with military subjects. They were of the opinion that the 375 marks each now given for military administration and military law, and 750 allowed for tactics, were not sufficient to encourage study in those important subjects. They agree that too many marks, in proportion, are given to rifle practice, and that marks should be given to the cadets selected for non-commissioned officers for the performance of their duties.

OUTDOOR TRAINING AND CAMP.

19. Lieut.-colonel Taylor stated that this examination into the course of instruction, on assuming command at the college, had convinced him that more time ought to be devoted to practical out-door training, especially in engineering and surveying. With this end in view, he proposed to hold the summer examinations at such a date as would allow them to be completed by June 15, and he would then take the cadets into camp for practical training for one month. This would somewhat curtail the usual allowance of holidays, but the change of air would, to a large extent, be the equivalent of a vacation, as regards health. The board concur in his proposal.

PERSONNEL AND INTERIOR ADMINISTRATION.

20. The Board next inquired into the personnel and internal administration of the college.

CADETS.

Owing to the selection last June of a number of the cadets of the second (now first) class for commissions in the permanent force, the college is not full. It could easily accommodate 100 cadets, but only 89 are on the books at present.

The cadets were inspected on parade in winter uniform. The senior class were seen at equitation. All classes were also seen at exercises in the gymnasium and in their rooms. Their demeanor, address, and physique appeared to the Board to be highly satisfactory.

The physical records of the third, or junior class, after being three months at the college, showed the following averages :—

Age.. . . .	17½ years.	
Height.. . . .	5 feet 9¼ inches.	
Chest, fully expanded.. . . .	37½ inches	} average 35 inches.
Chest, not fully expanded.. . . .	32½ inches	

Their health was reported by the medical officer to be very good.

The Board visited the class rooms during study hours and listened to the instruction given.

They also saw and questioned cadets representing the several classes.

They made inquiry from both officers and cadets as to whether any abuses took place under the name of 'recruiting.' So far as they could ascertain, from necessarily

5-6 EDWARD VII., A. 1906

limited opportunities for judging, no 'hazing,' 'fagging' or other improper practices were being carried on.

No complaints of a serious nature were made.

BOOTS.

22. Some complaint was made as to the price charged to cadets for boots (\$6), which was thought too high for the quality of the article provided. The Board and the Commandant considered that there was some ground for the complaint and the latter stated that he was already making inquiry into the matter.

CLOTHING.

23. Some of the junior cadets reported that, although their measurements were supplied in detail before the examination for entrance in May, yet, on joining the college in September, they had to wait from two or three weeks before their uniform was ready.

The Board requested the Commandant to inquire into the matter and report to headquarters.

DISCIPLINE.

24. The Board inquired into the administration of discipline and award of punishment, and found both, as carried out at the college, satisfactory.

CADETS' MESSING.

25. The Board found the food supplied to the cadets to be, on the whole, good, well served, and sufficient in quantity. Certain suggestions for minor improvements, e.g., the daily supply of porridge and toast, charges for extras, &c., were referred to the Commandant for examination. They are not entirely satisfied that more articles, such as jam and toast, might not be included for the price charged for messing.

BEER.

26. Requests were made by the cadets that beer should be allowed at dinner. The Commandant stated that he was entirely opposed to the proposal. The Board take the same view, and advise that it should not be allowed, unless at the express desire of the majority of the parents or guardians.

WATER SUPPLY.

27. The Board consider the quality of the water supply satisfactory.

The Commandant informed the Board that, there having recently been two or three cases of low fever among members of the staff and their families, he had had the water analyzed and the samples had been found satisfactory.

The quantity of the supply is however reported to be defective outside of the inner inclosure.

CADETS' RECREATION.

28. The Board found the recreation room accommodation for cadets in the main building to be sufficient, but they were impressed with the need for providing better means for the outdoor recreation and health of the cadets in winter. The gymnasium is made use of to its fullest extent, but it is not by itself sufficient. They recommend that a building should be provided which would fulfil the double purpose of a skating rink in winter and drill shed suitable for bad weather at other times. A drill shed is much needed.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 35a

WORKSHOP.

The Board visited the workshop and saw the cadets at work.

SUPERIOR STAFF.

30. The desirability for a rearrangement of the duties of the superior staff, together with the commandant's proposal for the reduction of one professor and the addition of four assistant instructors have been already considered. (See paragraph 17.)

Lieutenant-colonel Taylor represented strongly the necessity for the appointment of a quartermaster for the college. The duties of quartermaster are at present allotted to the adjutant, who has not the time to attend to them properly without neglecting his duties as adjutant; consequently they suffer. For example, there is no record of the equipment and material belonging to the college, and thus no adequate protection against loss. The commandant urged the importance of his being supplied at once with a proper equipment ledger, which the quartermaster would keep.

He proposed, for the appointment of quartermaster, Mr. Hennessy, the present superintending clerk, who was well fitted for the post. He should be replaced in the office by a junior clerk.

The board recommend the appointment of a quartermaster, and believe that the additional care and attention which such an officer would give to the equipment and material in charge of the college would considerably offset the extra cost involved.

SUBORDINATE STAFF.

31. As regards the subordinate staff, the only alteration asked for by the Commandant was that two buglers should be supplied. It was incongruous that in a military institution such as the college, parades and duties should be summoned by ringing a bell. If he could be allowed the services of two buglers he could dispense with one of the three soldier orderlies at present provided. He would use the buglers for fatigue work when they were not on duty, and he had ample work for an extra man in caring for the grounds within the inner enclosure alone.

The board are not aware how far it may be practicable to provide the buglers or employ them for fatigue work in the manner suggested, but they generally support the proposal of the Commandant. The buglers should be quartered with the riding establishment. (See paragraph 46.)

PENSIONS.

32. The attention of the board was drawn to the fact that although many of the staff, both superior and subordinate, have served for long periods at the college, yet it is doubtful whether they are by law entitled to pension. It is hardly necessary to point out how essential it is to the efficiency of such a staff that good and faithful service shall be rewarded by a pension as men get past their work. They recommend for the consideration of the Honourable the Minister that all military members of the staff should be borne upon the list of the permanent staff of the militia, and, if admissible under the Civil Service Act, that the civilian members should, for purposes of pension, be considered as members of the outside service.

MILITIA RANK.

33. In this connection it may be remarked that in the board's opinion it is highly desirable that the commandant of the Royal Military College and other officers of the British regular army serving at the college, should be granted militia commissions, in order to remove any possible doubt as to their right to exercise command over any portion of the militia. The subordinate military staff should belong to the militia.

PAY.

34. The board was requested by the commandant to represent to the Honourable the Minister his views upon the pay of the civil professors and instructors, as well as of the military professors and himself.

As regards the civil professors, the uniform rate is \$2,500, except for the French and English professors, which is only \$1,200 per annum. Instructors start at \$1,000, rising to \$1,500. The commandant recommends that the civil professors should get the equivalent of light and quarters, which are now allowed to the military professors. Compared with the rates now paid by our leading universities, it will be seen how much lower is the remuneration at the Royal Military College, although its yearly term of instruction is much longer. The rate of salary paid to the professors of French and English is altogether inadequate for the stamp of man required.

With regard to the military staff it is sufficient to mention that the rates of pay are the same as those fixed 30 years ago, within which time the pay of the militia of Canada, including the permanent force, has been raised all round, while the Royal Military College is the only institution which has not benefited by this recognition of the increased cost of living in the country. It is becoming increasingly difficult to get the right stamp of men as military professors or instructors for the remuneration offered.

COLLEGE GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS.

GROUNDS.

35. The board are of the opinion that in order to maintain the credit of the college in the eyes of the public, the proper care of the grounds should receive serious consideration. *Inter alia* the commandant laid before them proposals for the improvement of the shore to the east of the college, along Navy bay. Much of the work proposed appeared to be necessary on other grounds than those of appearance. Part of it must be carried out for the purpose of protecting the water supply pipe. The present boat houses are falling down, and it is now necessary to keep some of the boats out in the open through the winter rather than in the boat houses in their present condition. The board concurred in the commandant's proposals generally and recommend that they be carried out as soon as practicable. In this connection see also paragraph 31.

RIFLE RANGE.

36. The rifle range was reported satisfactory and safe.

BUILDINGS.

37. The board inspected the whole of the main buildings and found them generally in good condition.

DORMITORY.

38. The dormitory building was in good order and in a satisfactory state of sanitation, but the overlaying of the present floors by new hardwood floors, already in progress, should be completed.

MAIN BUILDING.

39. The main building was on the whole in good order. The board inspected the messman's quarters and the kitchen, and found both well looked after and in good

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 35a

order, but they consider that better accommodation for the messman's stores of food is desirable in the interests of health.

GREASE TRAP.

40. Their attention was drawn to the present arrangements for intercepting the grease from the mess scullery and preventing it from getting into the drains. The intercepting tank is placed near the kitchen door, and complaint is made that it gives off an offensive odour. The board consider it advisable for sanitary reasons that some other interceptor should be fitted, outside the building if possible, but in any case away from the kitchen door.

LIGHTING.

41. The Commandant reported that he had under his consideration the question of lighting, with a view to better lighting for the class rooms without increasing the expense, beyond a small initial expenditure for installation. The board agree that an improvement in the lighting of the class rooms is desirable.

HOSPITAL.

The board found the hospital in a very satisfactory condition. There were no cases in hospital and the general health of the cadets was reported by the medical officer as being good. He had not recently had any serious case.

GYMNASIUM.

43. The gymnasium was visited. The building and equipment are thoroughly up to date and satisfactory, with the exception that the accommodation for shower bath and lavatories has been left unfinished for some unexplained reason. These should now be completed. The basement, they understand, was intended for a swimming bath for use in winter, and for a shooting gallery and bowling alley. The board consider the establishment of a swimming bath as originally contemplated in the basement to be desirable, but not of as urgent necessity as some other requirements.

GUN-SHED.

44. The board examined the gun-shed and armament provided for artillery drill. There could be no question that the armament supplied at present is neither complete nor up to date. They consider the course of instruction in such a rapidly developing subject as artillery should not cover too wide a field, but should embrace a thorough knowledge of one or two typical natures of guns, which guns should be provided completely equipped in every respect.

CIVIL SUBORDINATES QUARTERS.

45. The board inspected the civil subordinates' quarters on Cataraqui Bay. They understand that these quarters have been frequently condemned as unfit for habitation, and they have no hesitation in concurring in this view. They understand that plans for new buildings to replace these have been prepared and are under consideration. If not finally decided upon, they would suggest that buildings in the nature of 'flats' would be economical to construct and maintain, and would be suitable for the purpose. The college establishment already includes 13 or more civilian employees who ought to be lodged within the grounds. The board recommend, that to meet requirements at least 16 quarters should be provided. At the present moment 2 married non-commissioned officers reside in town at a distance of quite twenty-five minutes' walk from their duty, and in addition 2 married non-commissioned officers and 3 civilian servants for whom quarters are not available, also reside outside the college and

5-6 EDWARD VII., A. 1906

are paid lodging allowance. These should be quartered within the grounds. As the cadets' washing is done by the families of the civilian employees, it would be very advantageous to include a good washhouse among the new buildings.

STABLES.

46. The board inspected the new stables destined to accommodate the horses provided for riding instruction. While the stables are nearly ready for occupation, no steps have yet been taken to provide quarters for the detachment in charge. It is hardly necessary to point out that the men who take care of the horses must be quartered near the stables. The necessary buildings, including a cookhouse and other accessories should be taken in hand at once. Connected with this question is that of the completion of the main drain from the stables to the Cataraqui river, into which the drainage from the new civil subordinates' quarters and other buildings should eventually be conducted. At present the drains for the new stables, though constructed under the building itself, have not been completed outside. Until this drainage system is completed and the men's quarters built, the stables cannot be used. The present water supply is reported to be defective in amount both here and elsewhere outside the inner enclosure.

FIRE PROTECTION.

47. The board requested the Commandant to sound 'fire alarm' with a view to testing the fire protection arrangements of the college. With the exception that the wooden cover above the trap over the main valve, used for disconnecting the main for fire purposes from the college supply, was frozen to the ground, and required some few minutes to get free, the arrangements worked well, the cadets and college staff were acquainted with their fire duties, and the pressure of water was sufficient. The difficulty due to freezing of the cover referred to can easily be remedied, and the Commandant undertook to make one which would not be liable to this difficulty, in his own workshop.

48. The board desire to call attention to the fact that no arrangement has been made to provide hydrants, or other fire appliances, for the protection of the buildings outside the inner enclosure, viz., the commandant's house, married officers' quarters, civil subordinates' quarters, the new stables, and two non-commissioned officers' houses near the entrance gate to the grounds. In the event of fire at any of these places, the only means of combatting it would be the use of water buckets until the city fire brigade could arrive. The board consider that the expenditure necessary for providing fire hydrants within easy reach of these buildings would be amply repaid by the protection afforded. This work might be carried out at the same time as the provision of a suitable water supply for the new stables.

GENERAL.

VISITS TO OTTAWA, ETC.

49. The Commandant brought to the notice of the board the advisability of the cadets making an official visit to Ottawa, with a view to bringing the college and its course of instruction to the notice of members of parliament and other officials, during the session. He thought that ministers and members of parliament should be invited to visit the college and be shown over it during term time. He also suggested that an occasional visit by the cadets to some of the larger cities would operate to spread more widely the reputation of the college. The board concur.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 35a

COST OF THE COLLEGE.

50. Lieut.-Colonel Taylor further submitted, that, in annual militia estimates so far as they related to the Royal Military College, and in all statements concerning its cost to the country, full credit should, in justice to the college, be given for the revenue received by it on account of repayments made by cadets and their friends. This would largely reduce its apparent cost.

51. The country appears to the board to possess in the Royal Military College an institution of singular value for the training of youths, whether intended for military or civil life. While the college does not profess to offer to students the wide choice of subjects of education which an university affords, still, by teaching English, French, mathematics, surveying, physics, chemistry, and engineering, as well as military subjects, it embraces many of the most useful. The physical portion of the training, including the systematic and skilled instruction in gymnastics is unique, and the habits of discipline, punctuality and obedience, which are here learned, cannot fail to prove of great advantage to the graduates in after life.

CONCLUSION.

52. In conclusion the board desire to report that on the whole they found the college in a satisfactory state and one reflecting credit upon the Commandant and staff. While they have made recommendations on many points, which in their judgment might be improved, yet they are favourably impressed by the bearing, appearance and health of the cadets, the nature of the instruction given, the food and other supplies, the good condition of the more important buildings, and, lastly, by the keen interest displayed by the entire staff.

PERCY LAKE, Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff.

W. P. R. STREET.
O. E. MATHIEU, Ptre.

W. D. OTTER, Brigadier-General,
Commanding Western Ontario.

HENRY A. PANET, Major,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLES F. WINTER, Major,
Acting Secretary.

OTTAWA, February 21, 1906.

